

2-12-1872

Report : Petition of E. Gerry

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IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES.

FEBRUARY 12, 1872.—Ordered to be printed.

Mr. CORBETT made the following

REPORT:

[To accompany bill S. No. 636.]

The Committee on Indian Affairs, to whom was referred the petition of Elbridge Gerry, make the following report:

This petition sets forth the claim of Elbridge Gerry, for the sum of \$30,600; said claim being based upon his alleged losses in 1864, in which he sets forth his losses to be the amount above named, as follows:

August 21, 1864. By the Cheyenne Indians, for 66 head of horses and mules, at \$200 each.....	\$13,200
August 18, 1865. By the Brulé Sioux Indians, 21 head of horses, at \$200 each..	4,200
October 21, 1865. By Ogallalla Sioux Indians, 88 head brood-mares and young stock, at \$150 each	13,200

This claim is sustained by a letter of Vital Jarrot, United States Indian agent, dated Fort Laramie, July 12, 1866, inclosing the acknowledgment of said Indians that they did take and appropriate said stock to their use, and that no part of said stock has ever been returned to said Gerry. The claimant alleges that he rendered important services to the people of Colorado, by leaving his home on the night of the 19th August, 1864, and warning the people and the governor of an impending attack by the Indians, which two friendly chiefs had informed him would take place on the 21st of August, which information was given him for his own protection; that by reason of his leaving home to give this information, the Indians became hostile to him, and have, since that time, taken from him said property. These facts are sustained by the report of the Commissioner of Indian Affairs, 1864, pages 219 and 232; also by letter of John Evans, late governor of Colorado Territory, dated Denver, November 12, 1869.

In consideration of the foregoing statement, and the sworn statement of Elbridge Gerry, the committee recommend an allowance, as follows:

For the 66 head of horses and mules lost on the 21st August, 1864.....	\$3,300
For the 21 head of horses lost August 18, 1865.....	1,050
For the 88 head of brood-mares and young stock lost October 21, 1865.....	3,300

which amounts, when paid, shall be charged to the respective tribes who took the said stock, and shall be deducted from any annuities or money due or to become due said respective tribes. We herewith report a bill for the payment of the same.